



THE NEWFIE NEWSLETTER

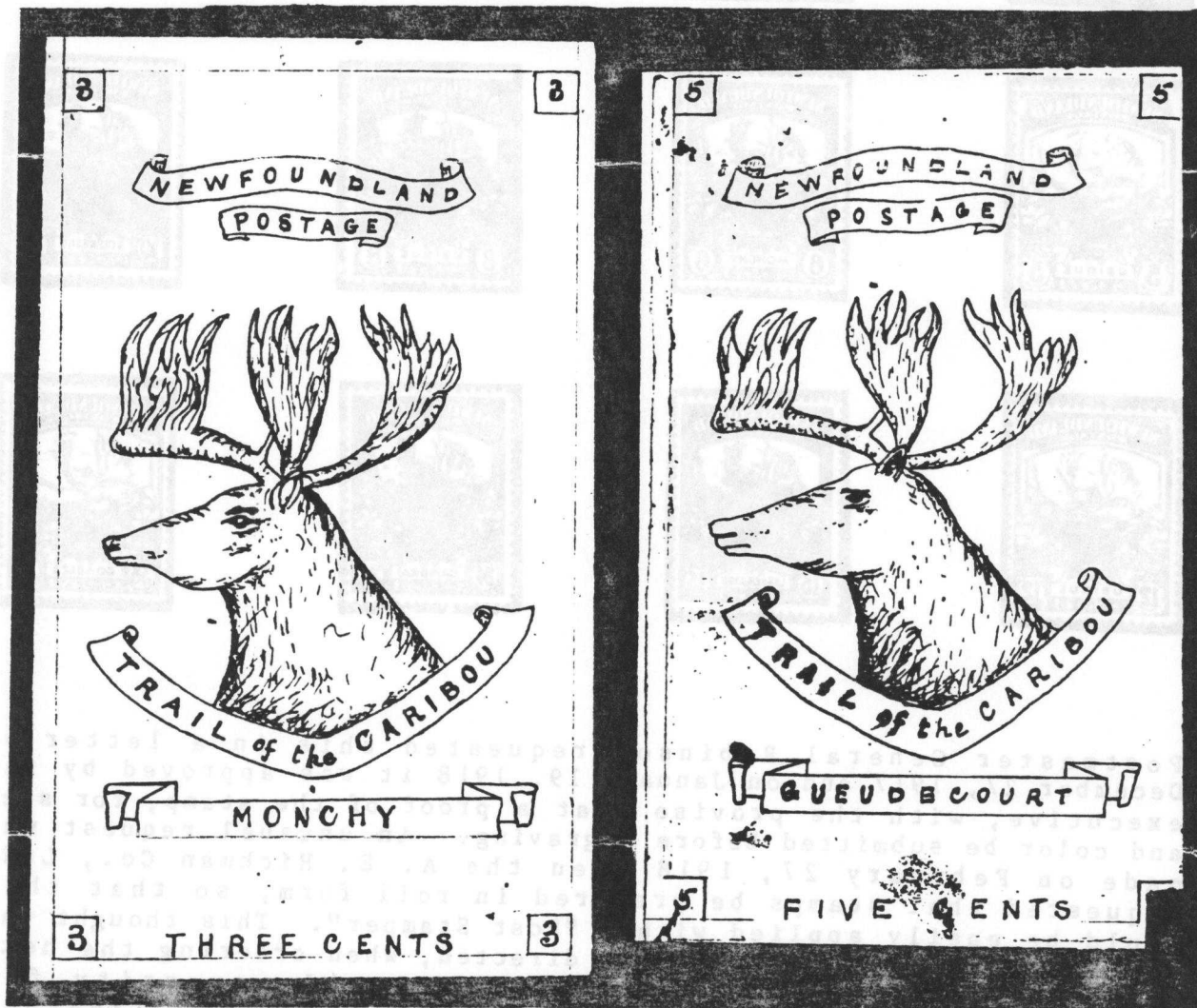
of the Newfoundland Study Group of BNAPS

Number 35

May/June 1991

TRAIL OF THE CARIBOU: FROM THE COLLECTION OF ROBERT H. PRATT

by C. A. Stillions



World War I intervened, so the Coronation Issue of 1911 had a long use. The last order was placed in August 1918. On April 18, 1917, the Colonial Secretary informed Mr. J. H. Noonan of the Customs Department, that his suggestion of a stamp issue to honor the Newfoundland Regiment still fighting, had favorably impressed the Postmaster General. Inscribing the emblem of the Regiment on a stamp would be considered when a new issue was undertaken.

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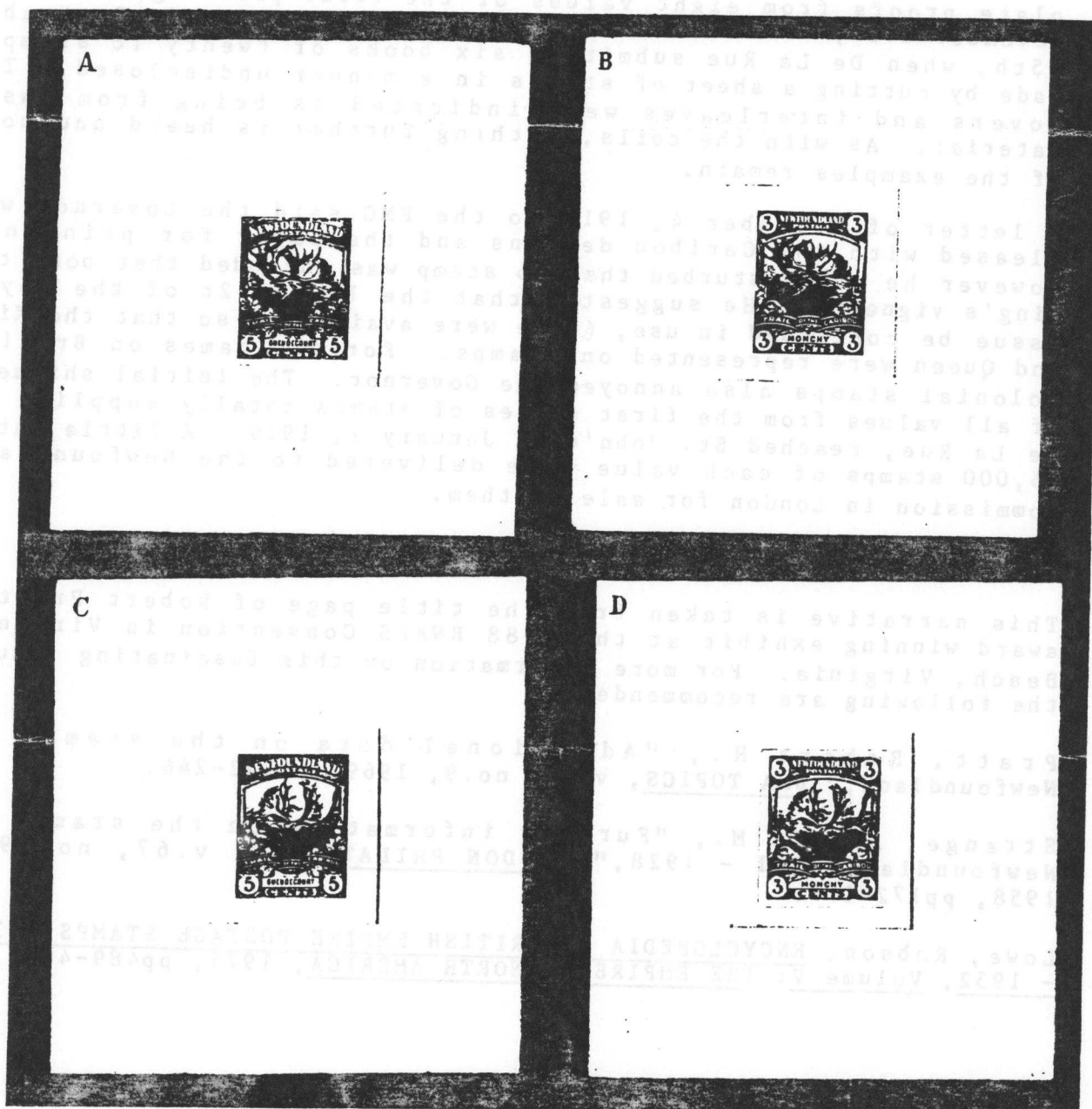
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Postmaster General Robinson requested this in a letter of December 27, 1917 and on January 19, 1918 it was approved by the executive, with the proviso that a proof of the stamp, for size and color be submitted before engraving. An unusual request was made on February 27, 1918 when the A. E. Hickman Co., Ltd. requested that stamps be prepared in roll form, so that they could be easily applied with a "Post Stamper". This thought was approved April 28th, and the PMG directed, when ordering the next lot of 2¢ stamps, to provide a sizeable quantity for experimentation. Nothing further is heard of this. Another change in policy on May 17th, added a tax on Telegrams of 5¢ each if sent singly, or a double 5¢ tax if a reply was requested. This was satisfied by authorizing the use of 5¢ stamps.

In early March 1918, the PMG sent two of Mr. Noonan's crude drawings of a Caribou and three scrolls to Whitehead Morris for evaluation. On March 19th De La Rue sent 4 designs to W/M which went on to St. John's on the 20th. These were labeled A, B, C, & D. While the size was considered large, Design C was chosen on

May 31st, because of the border design and the head of the Caribou. The other offerings were considered too placid. Colors were to conform to U.P.U. requirements, and a \$1.00 stamp was suggested. Quantities and denominations were left up to the PMG, who was told to proceed with the engraving.



On June 15th the PMG was ordered to have all printing plates of stamps used prior to the Caribou issue destroyed. W/M had been told to retain the Guy issue plates when the Coronation Issue was ordered. The Royal Naval Reserve felt ignored when they saw the designs, and they were accomodated on August 14th, by including them on four values. The colors, other than U.P.U. specified, were defined by printing plate proofs of the 1c in suggested colors. The choices were approved October 21, 1918. Blocks of plate proofs from eight values of the first printing, October - November 1918, remain. An interesting offer was made September 25th, when De La Rue submitted six books of twenty 1c stamps, made by cutting a sheet of stamps in a manner undisclosed. The covers and interleaves were indicated as being from waste material. As with the coils, nothing further is heard and none of the examples remain.

A letter of December 4, 1918 to the PMG said the Governor was pleased with the Caribou designs and the paper for printing. However he was disturbed that no stamp was included that bore the King's vignette. He suggested that the 1c and 2c of the Royal issue be continued in use, (none were available) so that the King and Queen were represented on stamps. Foreign names on British Colonial stamps also annoyed the Governor. The initial shipment of all values from the first series of stamps totally supplied by De La Rue, reached St. John's on January 2, 1919. A little later 25,000 stamps of each value were delivered to the Newfoundland Commission in London for sale by them.

This narrative is taken from the title page of Robert Pratt's award winning exhibit at the 1988 BNAPS Convention in Virginia Beach, Virginia. For more information on this fascinating issue, the following are recommended:

Pratt, Robert H., "Additional data on the stamps of Newfoundland," BNA TOPICS, v.26, no.9, 1969, pp242-246.

Strange, Arnold M., "Further information on the stamps of Newfoundland 1911 - 1928," LONDON PHILATELIST, v.67, no.791, 1958, pp172-177.

Lowe, Robson, ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BRITISH EMPIRE POSTAGE STAMPS 1639 - 1952, Volume V: THE EMPIRE IN NORTH AMERICA, 1973, pp489-490.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

FUNDAMENTALS OF PHILATELY by L. N. WILLIAMS. If you have not added this remake of a classic to your philatelic library, you should consider it. At 880 pages and covering all aspects of stamp production, it is really an encyclopedia. There is such depth of detail that there are almost no questions in Philately that the answers will not be found in this book.

Originally published in 1971, FUNDAMENTALS OF PHILATELY was compiled and revised from a serialized version by the brother writing team of Leon Norman and Maurice Williams that had appeared in the AMERICAN PHILATELIST from 1954 through 1963. Maurice died in 1976. The 1971 unabridged edition (672 pages) quickly sold out and was reprinted by the APS. The book immediately proved to be a classic and has realized high prices at auction ever since it went out of print.

The new edition has been eight years in the making and has been greatly expanded. The new edition is divided into the same 15 chapters as the original, covering all aspects of stamps from design, to paper, to inks and gum, through printing techniques to separation as well as philatelic trends and aims of collecting.

FUNDAMENTALS is lavishly illustrated with hundreds of photographs and drawings from the original edition, plus many new photos. All clearly illustrate the point being made and greatly aid the reader's understanding. What is especially appealing to Newfoundland collectors, is that many Newfoundland stamps are used to illustrate the points being made. Some well known stamps and some not so well known are used.

Detailed chapters on each of the four primary types of stamp printing (intaglio, planographic, embossing, and relief) are further broken down into the many subcategories. WPS's own George Brett assisted with the revision to these chapters. At the end of each chapter is a glossary of terms associated with that chapter. Not only are the terms explained, but are well illustrated as well.

This is a book that all serious collectors should have in their library. There are very few questions in philately that the answer cannot be found in this book. The book makes interesting reading as well as serving as a handy and useful reference.

FUNDAMENTALS OF PHILATELY can be obtained from the American Philatelic Society, Box 8000-N, State College, PA 16803 for \$48.00 to members or \$60.00 to non-members.



NEW MEMBERS

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NEWS FROM OTHER STUDY GROUPS

The entire May 1991 newsletter of the Canadian Railway Post Office Study Group is filled with A Synopsis of Newfoundland's Railway History and photographs of the ships in the Federal Government Service on the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador. The editor of THE R.P.O. NEWSLETTER is Newfoundland Study Group member, Bill Robinson. He can be reached at 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V6M 3A7 for more information on the R.P.O. Study Group and their newsletter.

COMING EVENTS

BNAPEX'91, August 29-31, 1991, Vancouver, British Columbia, Westin Bayshore Hotel, Annual convention and exhibition of the British North America Philatelic Society and annual meeting of the Newfoundland Study Group. The Study Group meeting is scheduled for 1:00pm, Friday, 30 August.

VAPEX'91, November 8-10, 1991, Virginia Beach, Virginia. The Fall meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Group of BNAPS with seminar: So You Want To Collect...

Canada -- by Horace Harrison

Newfoundland -- by C. A. Stillions

Prince Edward Island -- by Jim Lehr

SUPPORT OUR DEALER MEMBERS

Gary J. Lyon, EASTERN AUCTIONS LTD., P.O.Box 250, Bathurst, New Brunswick, CANADA E2A 3Z2

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Robert J. McGillivray, STANLEY STAMP COMPANY, 1096 Richards Street, Vancouver, B.C., CANADA V6B 3E1

INFOFINDER

There still are a number of copies available of Bob Pratt's INFOFINDER, the index to his book THE NINETEENTH CENTURY POSTAL HISTORY OF NEWFOUNDLAND. If you do not have one, you can get one by sending your check to me, C. A. Stillions, 5031 Eskridge Terrace, N. W., Washington, D.C. 20016. The price is \$5.00US to study group members or \$7.00 to nonmembers. Remember, Bob is donating all profits from the sale of the INFOFINDER to the study group.

WANTED

Articles for the Newsletter. If you have any items you want to showoff, questions about something you don't understand, or opinions you would like to express, this is the place. So send a photocopy of your favorite item, your question, or your essay to me and I'll use it in the newsletter.

CORRECTION

The number in the masthead of the last issue is incorrect. The correct number of the March/April 1991 issue this newsletter is No. 34.

EVER WONDER...

Sooner or later Collectors of Newfoundland covers will see covers either from or to Rev. E. A. Butler of St. George's. In the 1930's and 40's he was one of the major Newfoundland stamp dealers. Here is a picture of him from the cover of his 1939 price list.

**REV. BUTLER'S**  
1939 PRICE LIST OF  
**NEWFOUNDLAND STAMPS**  
INCLUDING  
AIRMAIL STAMPS AND FLOWN COVERS



This is REV. BUTLER (Himself)  
• Rector of St. George Parish •

Pictured as he was a year ago, just about to start for a trip around his parish - 30 miles in extent - with 300 families and 6 churches. His people are of the poorer class but all are independent fishermen and farmers with not one able-bodied person on the "dole".

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF  
**REV. E. A. BUTLER**  
SANDY POINT - ST. GEORGE'S  
NEWFOUNDLAND  
MEMBER: A.P.S., S.P.A., A.S.D.A., A.A.M.S.  
"Nfld" means Rev. Butler.